

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)177

(Question Serial No. 0315)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the supply of livestock and poultry, please advise on the following:

- (a) the average, highest and lowest daily number of live pigs, live cattle and live chickens imported from the Mainland and supplied locally in each of the past three years (i.e. 2013, 2014 and 2015), with a breakdown by year and source of supply;
- (b) the monthly average price of live pigs and live cattle supplied by the Mainland to Hong Kong in each of the past three years (i.e. 2013, 2014 and 2015); and
- (c) whether work is still underway in identifying an appropriate site for relocating the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market; if yes, the progress and the estimated expenditure involved; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No. 39)

Reply:

- (a) Information on the number of live pigs, live cattle and live chickens imported from the Mainland in the past three years is tabulated as follows –

Calendar Year	Daily number of live pigs, live cattle and live chickens imported from the Mainland								
	Pigs			Cattle			Chickens		
	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest
2013	4 317	5 565	1 942	52	116	8	6 307	9 600	2 300
2014	4 452	6 298	2 597	51	110	9	2 499 [@]	10 200	1 500
2015	4 338	6 993	2 094	49	97	8	168 [#]	2 900	1 400

[@] There was no supply of imported live chickens from 28 January to 5 September 2014.

[#] Import of live chickens was last suspended as from 31 December 2014 due to the temporary closure of the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market (CSWTWPM) after the detection of a H7 avian influenza positive consignment of imported live poultry. Trading of live

poultry at CSWTWPM resumed on 22 January 2015. However, there was no import of live poultry until 10 February 2015 and the import quantity has since been significantly reduced compared to the average in the past.

Information on the number of live pigs and live chickens supplied from local farms in the past three years is tabulated as follows –

Calendar Year	Daily number of live pigs and live chickens supplied from local farms ⁺					
	Pigs			Chickens		
	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest
2013	264	529	24	10 546	69 956	2 000
2014	240	432	43	10 961	36 675	4 100
2015	235	411	7	11 110	47 912	1 500

⁺ Local farms are not engaged in rearing cattle as food animals.

(b) Information on the auction or wholesale prices of live pigs and live cattle imported from the Mainland in the past three years is tabulated as follows –

Calendar Year	Average Auction Price of Live Pigs (per picul)	Average Wholesale Price of Live Cattle (per picul)*	
		Marbled Meat Cattle	Beef Cattle
2013	\$1,350	\$4,497	\$4,093
2014	\$1,253	\$4,690	\$4,070
2015	\$1,361	\$4,690	\$4,070

* The wholesale price of live cattle is determined by the wholesale agent. The wholesale prices of marbled meat cattle and beef cattle were last adjusted to HK\$4,690 / picul and HK\$4,070 / picul respectively on 6 May 2013.

(c) The Government is conducting a consultancy study on the future of the live poultry trade in Hong Kong, including whether the sale of live poultry should continue, and will consult the public on the recommendations of the consultant afterwards. Subject to the outcome of the consultancy study and the public views received on the recommendation of the consultant, the Government will formulate its views on the relocation of CSWTWPM.

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